



# **Introduction to Illegal Methamphetamine Labs**

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# Methamphetamine

## • Common Names

- Crank, Speed, Crystal, Ice

## • Potent CNS stimulant

- Cause drug dependence

## • Possession, manufacture, distribution

- unlawful and illegal



# What is an illegal Lab

## • An illegal methamphetamine lab

- Set up to produce illegal drugs
- Make-shift lab
- Process is called “cooking”



# Kitchen Lab



# Car Lab



# Garage Lab



# Lab dump site



# Methods

- **Several different techniques**
- **Most common**
  - **Nazi method**
  - **Red Phosphorous**





# Chemicals and Compounds

- **Ammonia, toluene, acetone, iodine, Hydrogen peroxide, alcohol, Propane (tanks), starter fluid**
- **Ephedrine and pseudoephedrine tablets, Rock salt, Lithium batteries, Coffee filters stains red**

# Equipment & Chemicals



# Equipment



# **Danger to manufactures**

## **Chemical exposure**

- **burn to skin, eyes, lungs**
- **headache, nausea, dizziness**
- **Increase cancer rates**

## **Explosion**

- **Fire to homes, apartments , vehicles**
- **Severe burns to body**
- **Loss of lives**

# Health Effects



- **Acute exposure- low level exposure**
  - headache, nausea, dizziness, fatigue
- **Acute exposure- high level exposure**
  - shortness of breath, cough, chest pain, dizziness, lack of coordination
  - Chemical irritation- burn to skin, eyes, mouth, nose
  - Death in severe cases

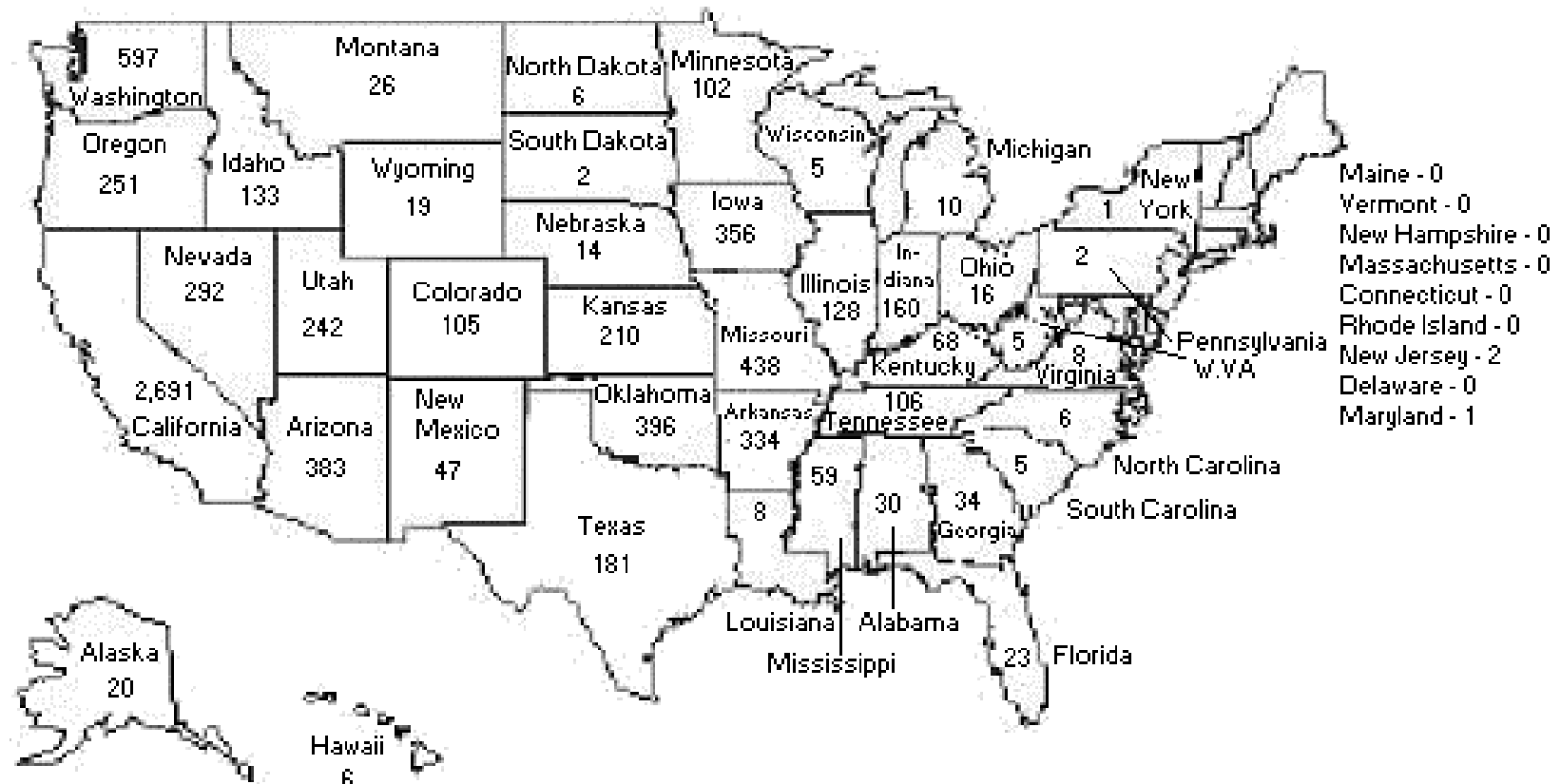
# Health Effects



- **Chronic exposure - weeks, months or years**
- **Toxicological evidence shows**
  - **cancer rate increase**
  - **damage to brain, liver, kidneys**
  - **Reproductive problems**
    - **birth defects**
    - **miscarriages**



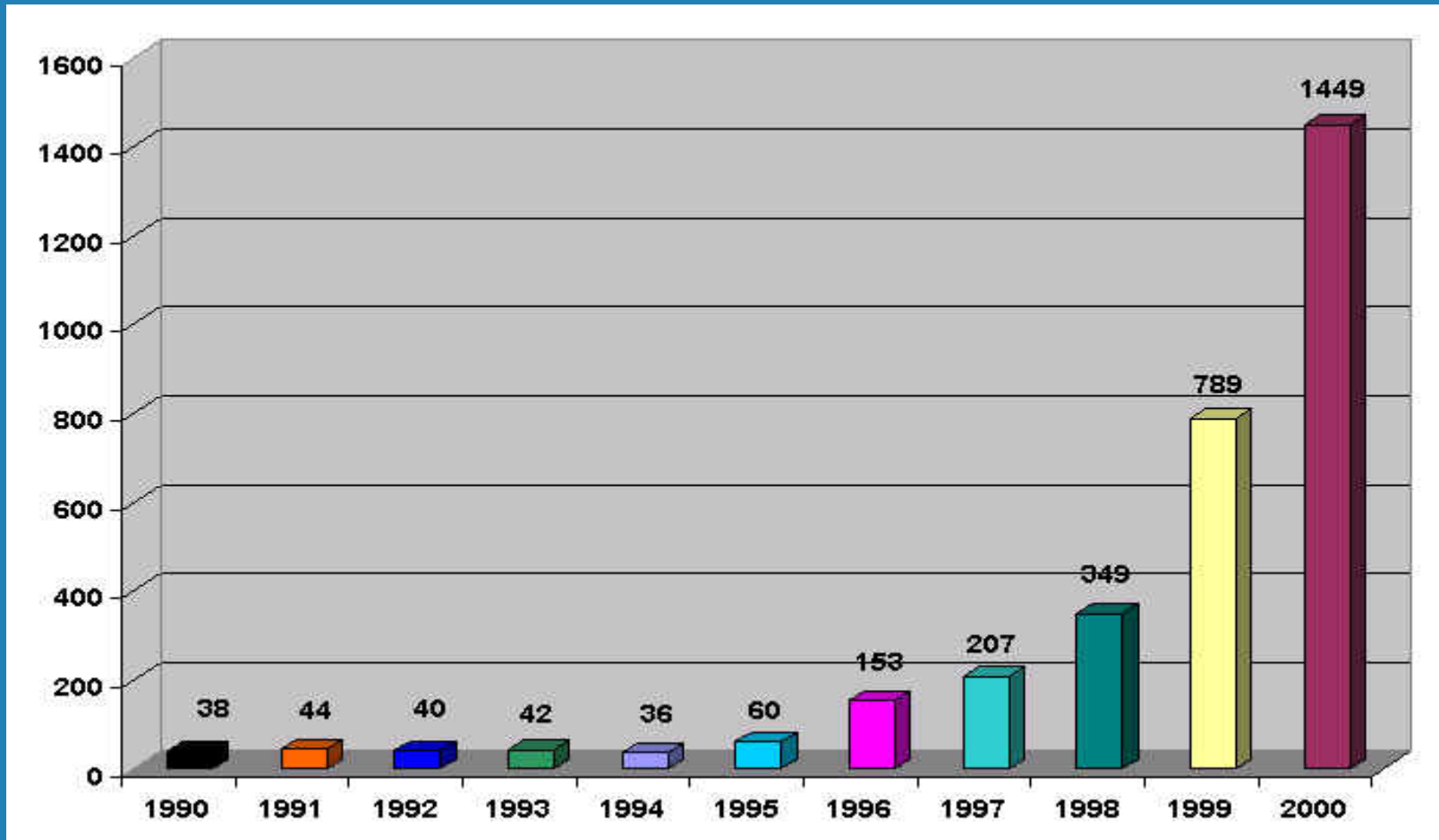
# CLANDESTINE LABORATORY SEIZURES REPORTED TO DEA EPIC Calendar Year 1999



**Total Clandestine Lab Seizures: 7,528**  
**Over 97 percent of clan lab seizures were methamphetamine labs.**

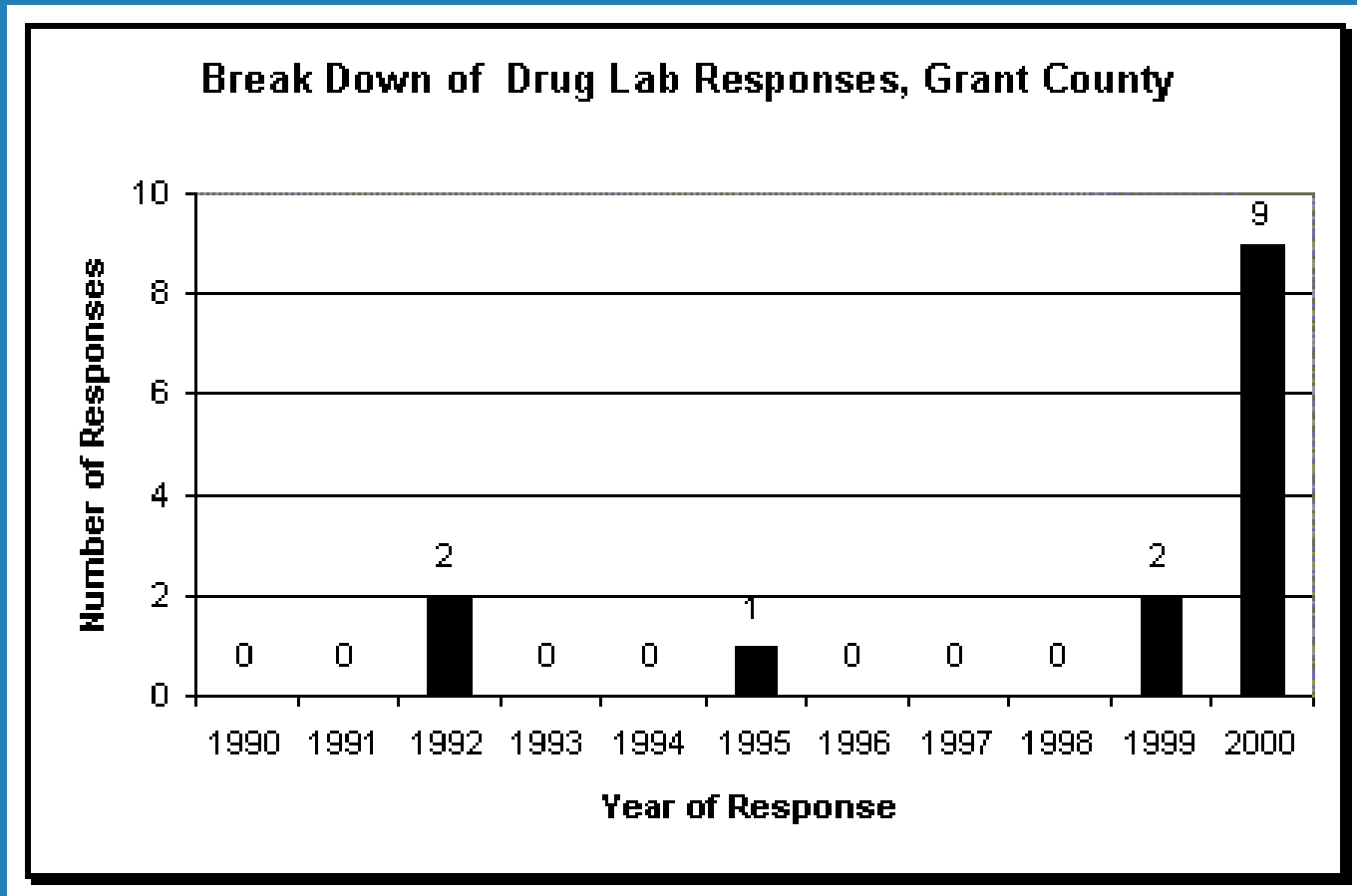
Source: DEA EPIC, September 2000

# Statewide - drug lab cleanup activity





# Drug Lab Responses in Grant County



# **Grant County Health District Response Role**

## **Post Property**

- **Within one working day of notification**
- **Get complete list of chemicals**

## **Assess Health Risk**

- **Within 14 days**
- **Review records**

## **Determine fit/unfit**

- **method used, size, duration and location**
- **option to owner to contact contractor**

# **Grant County Health District Response Role**

## **Unfit property**

- **Report to DOH- by phone and in writing**
- **Post property unfit**
  - **notify all occupants and owner**
  - **file order- auditor, copy to building department**
- **Provide list of contractors to owner**
  - **Work plan with contractor**
- **Determine if cleanup is complete**
  - **file decontamination approval**

# Resources online

## The M-Files

- [www.mfiles.org/methweb/home/home.html](http://www.mfiles.org/methweb/home/home.html)

## Life or Meth

- [www.lifeormeth.org](http://www.lifeormeth.org)

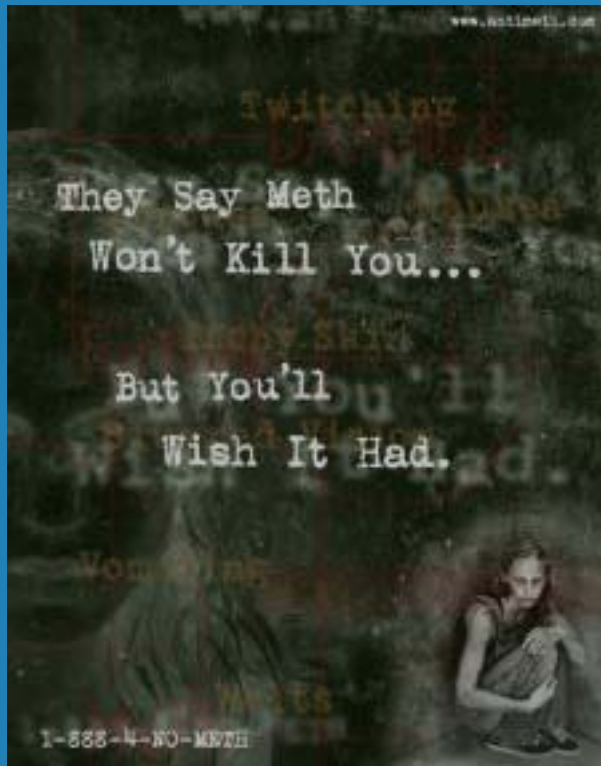
## Stop Drugs

- [www.stopdrugs.org](http://www.stopdrugs.org)

## Drug Facts

- [www.whitehousedrugpolicy.gov/drugfact/](http://www.whitehousedrugpolicy.gov/drugfact/)

# Conclusion



# The Ultimate Price



